



Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue #3

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

3 June 2010

Cotton Scout School

We will be offering a Cotton Scouting School on 17 June at the Pee Dee Research and Education Center near Florence, SC. The program will include presentations about cotton growth and development, how to spot and report glyphosate-resistant weeds, how to identify insects (good and bad), pesticide and safety issues, and more. Lunch will be provided, and there will be raffle-ticket prizes for those in attendance. The program is free to cotton producers, crop consultants, Extension personnel, industry representatives, and anyone else interested in cotton and scouting techniques. In order to get an approximation on how many will attend (for planning lunch), please pre-register by emailing me by **14 June** to indicate how many you will be bringing to the training (green4@clemson.edu). Here is a tentative agenda:

2010 Cotton Scouting School

8:30 AM - Registration

9:00 AM - Welcome and Opening Comments

9:15 AM - Cotton Growth and Development - Dr. Mike Jones, Extension Cotton Specialist

10:00 AM - How Cotton Scouts Can Help Detect Problem Patches of Resistant Weeds – Dr. Mike Marshall, Extension Weed Specialist

11:00 AM - How to Identify Beneficial Insects in Cotton – Dr. Jeremy Greene, Extension Cotton Entomologist

12:00 PM - Lunch

1:00 PM - How to Identify and Scout for Pestiferous Insects in Cotton – Dr. Jeremy Greene, Extension Cotton Entomologist

2:00 PM - Pesticide and Safety Issues – Dr. Bob Bellinger, Extension Pesticide Safety Specialist

3:00 PM – End of Program

Pest Patrol Hotline

Again this year there will be a toll-free hotline for quick updates on insect problems. I will update the short message weekly for at least as long as the newsletter runs. Simply call the free number **(877) 285-8525** and select the messages you would like to hear. The hotline is sponsored by Syngenta Crop Science.

News from Above the Lakes

No news to report this week. Please email me your comments by Wednesday for inclusion in the newsletter.

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The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.



News from Below the Lakes

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Cotton Situation

As of 1 June 2010, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 93% of the crop being planted, ahead of where we were last year at 86% and the 5-yr average of 89%. Conditions were described as 0% excellent, 48% good, 45% fair, 7% poor, and 0% very poor for the crop. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages. The recent scattered thunderstorms have certainly helped, but some places have unfortunately missed many of the showers. The range of rainfall across cotton-producing counties in the state continues to be large with some areas getting tenths of an inch of rain and some getting a couple of inches. Deficits of rainfall for the year in some areas of the state are starting to be measured with “ft” as the units. Our area has a deficit for the year of about half a foot.

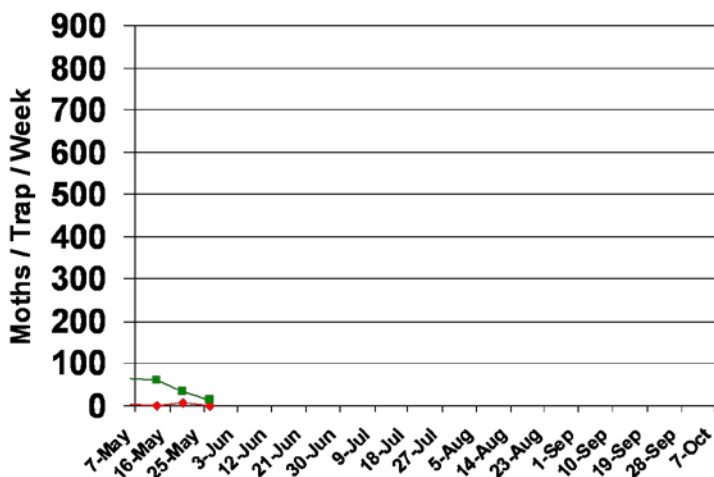
Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm



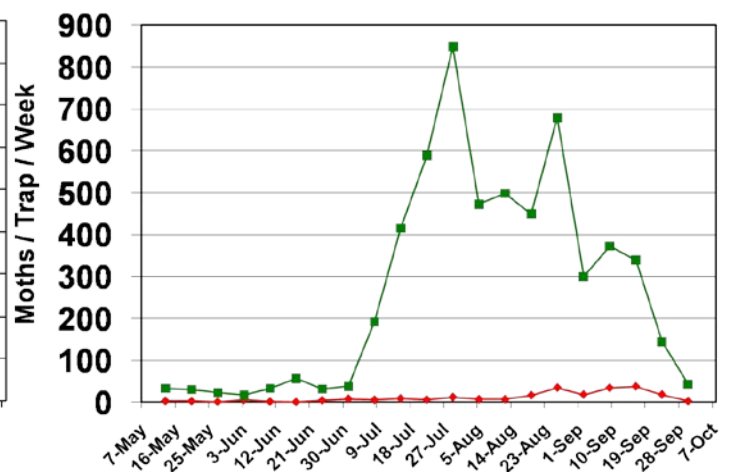
Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season and last season are presented. The scales on the charts are the same to illustrate where we are compared with last year. We have seen trap numbers decline over the last several weeks, and we will likely not see any appreciable numbers of moths until the next generation comes out of corn in July. The bollworm continues to be an important pest of cotton and soybean, so we will continue to monitor the progress of this pest until that changes.



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2010



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Has Your Cotton Outgrown Early-Season Thrips?

When do you stop worrying about thrips injury? For the most part, pressure from thrips has been light this season, so many are not facing decisions about spraying thrips, but if you are considering a spray and you are going over big seedlings, consider the following. Most data indicate that there is no economic advantage to spraying for thrips after the 4-leaf stage of growth. Applications of insecticides for thrips after that stage actually can cause more problems by potentially flaring problems with aphids and spider mites. Save the application for later when problems with pests such as stink bugs arise.

Cotton Insect Control Guide

Clemson University Publication IC97 (Cotton Insect Management) has been revised for 2010 and is available free from your local county office. It is also available online at:

<http://www.clemson.edu/psapublishing/PAGES/ENTOM/IC97.pdf>

Soybean Situation

As of 1 June 2010, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 59% of the crop being planted, well ahead of last year (42%) and the 5-yr average of 49%. About 44% of soybeans have emerged, ahead of where we were last year at 30% and the 5-yr average of 29%. Conditions were described as 1% excellent, 47% good, 47% fair, and 5% poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Soybean Insect Control Guide

Clemson University Publication SL1 (Soybean Insect Management) has been revised for 2010 and is available free from your local county office. It is also available online at:

<http://www.clemson.edu/psapublishing/PAGES/AGRO/SL1.pdf>

Pest Management Handbook - 2010

Insect control recommendations are also available online in the 2010 Pest Management Handbook at:

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/pest/index.html>

Need More Information?

Log on to the following web pages to view important cotton management recommendations, data, and historical cotton insect newsletters:

<http://www.clemson.edu/public/rec/edisto/research/cotton.html>

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/cotton/index.html>

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.

Associate Professor – Entomologist



Visit our website at:

<http://www.clemson.edu>

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